

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

BALANCED NEWS. FEARLESS VIEWS



IT ISN'T WHAT YOU THINK. No, the battle of barcos is not going to Panatag Strait in defense of Philippine sovereignty. The colorfully decorated barcos, 100 of them, joined the Barayal parade on the Agno River in Pangasinan and Negros rivers in Pangasinan as part of the province's "Pista'y Dapay" (Pista Festival) celebration. (Story continues on the Nation, Page A18.)

PHOTO BY JIMMY L. LACORAN FOR THE INQUIRER

PH economy to grow by 5-6%, say officials

ADB: No serious effect of recession in Europe

By Rita T. Ochoyda and Michelle K. Remo

ADMINISTRATION officials are optimistic that the Philippine economy will expand by 5 to 6 percent in 2012, higher than the 3.7-percent growth posted in 2011.

Socioeconomic Planning Secretary Cayetano W. Padesa Jr. told reporters on the sidelines of the 45th Asian Development Bank summit annual meeting in Manila that the government's expenditure program was getting on track and economic indicators were looking "good."

ADB president Haruhiko Kuroda said the Philippines and its neighbors were poised to

weather the effects of a mild recession in the Euro zone this year, but stressed the urgent need for member countries to address the wide income inequality in their jurisdictions.

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

Steady growth in other Asian countries seen • ADB official cites PH development path / A6



OPTIMISM Haruhiko Kuroda, ADB president, speaks of continued Asian growth during a press conference of the 45th ADB Board of Governors' meeting on Wednesday.

APRIL 2, 2012

14 Chinese vessels now at Panatag, says AFP

By Dena Z. Paredes

THERE are now 14 Chinese ships in Panatag Strait—four big maritime ships and 10 fishing boats, the Armed Forces of the Philippines said yesterday.

Only a Bureau of Fisheries and Aquaculture vessel (BFAV) 3008 and the BRP Sison II, a Coast Guard search and rescue vessel (SARV) 002, represent Philippine sovereignty over the area, known internationally as Scarborough Shoal, according to the AFP.

As of Monday night, the two ships had monitored 14 Chinese vessels in the area, according to the AFP's Northern Luzon Command (Nolcom).

They note the Chinese Maritime Militaire Surveillance (CMS) vessels 71, 75 and 81 and the Fish-

10/000/011

PH to bring case to IET court over without China's approval • Joker, Jans: US has many more interests in China than in PH / A7B

Number of college grads grew by only 2.9% in 2010

By Tama Quinsam

THE NUMBER of college graduates has been growing too slowly in the last decade, threatening the country's supply of qualified human capital, a national statistics body has said.

Figures released by the National Statistics Coordination Board (NSCB) showed that the total number of college graduates increased by only 2.9 percent in 2010 and accounted for just 2 percent of those within the prime employable age bracket of 20 to 34.

The number of college graduates "has not risen fast enough," says the NSCB, with the total

NUMBER 32

World Bank sees positive impact of PH cash scheme

PE CUPPO and her five children live in a shack with no running water along a dirt track in eastern Manila. She earns about P4,200 a month working clothes and her husband used

to bring in about P2,800 a month driving a motorcycle taxi and he was blind.

But things are better than they used to be.

Through a maintenance pro-

gram called Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino, 3 million poor households like Cuppo's get small grants from the government if they keep their children in school and take them regu-

larly to health centers.

"It's really a big help because now we don't have a problem about whether we can have

food to eat so if the kids have money to go to school," Cuppo, 43, said with her 2-year-old

WORLD 48

Catanduanes eases thank P-Noy for cash aid / A8



Times St. house ups Noy's net worth

By Christine G. Arellano

DAVO, Calabarzon—THAT'S the problem with being a millionaire. Sometimes you DON'T KNOW exactly how much you're worth.

President Aquino told reporters yesterday his net worth increased

THIRD ST. 4/5

CJ, SC justices submit SALNs, ban disclosures

By Marlon Ramos and Gil C. Cabanag

IMPACTED Chief Justice Renato Corona and the rest of the 15-member Supreme Court have filed on time their statements of assets, liabilities and net worth (SALNs), but the court is withholding their public disclosure in line with a 23-year-old resolution.

Jose Misal Margat, court spokesperson, said confidential

administration, yesterday said the justices submitted their SALNs to the Office of the Clerk of Court as mandated by the Constitution. He said the submissions were made within the April 30 filing deadline.

Margat declined to provide any details of the justices' financial records in line with the tribunal's 1989 ruling prohibiting the release of their SALNs.

One of the associates

12 SC JUSTICES 4/5

Mas malinamnam ang pagkain pag may



Pinipili ng mapiling ina.

LIFESTYLE

Fiesta-inspired buffets, stately sit-down meals welcome ADB delegates / C1

BUSINESS

Bulls push stock market to new peak / B1

WORLD

Tsunami-swept Harley found on Canada isle / A22

NEWS

JDV leads new group for Asia peace / A5

Pagasa sees more rains, cooler temps

By T. G. Geronimo

METEO Manila may expect frequent all-weather thunderstorms in the rainy season ahead, says weather forecasters and meteorologists.

Parts of Metro Manila experienced rain on Monday afternoon, as the weather bureau forecasters said yesterday.

The ridge of a high pressure area was passing over the city, but the weather bureau forecasters said it would not be enough to stop the rain. The weather bureau forecasters said it would be a wet season ahead, with rain on most days.

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For the rest of the week, Pagasa said, the weather bureau forecasters said it would be a wet season ahead, with rain on most days.

The public, however, may expect temperatures to shoot up further in the rainy season ahead, says weather forecasters.

Meanwhile, Pagasa said, an unusual solar eclipse would occur on May 21 and would be visible from China, most of Europe, and Southeast Asia, including the Philippines and Indonesia.

A solar eclipse occurs when the moon passes between the earth and the sun, obscuring the image of the sun as viewed from the earth.

In the Philippines, it will be observed as a partial solar eclipse.

Court rules Neri should be tried with GMA, Abalos

By Lito S. Salazar

THE SUPREMACY COURT has ruled in favor of considering Neri's graft case with those of former President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo and former vice president Benjamin Abalos, which is pending in the anti-graft court's Fourth Division.

The latest ruling would mean that Neri should be tried for graft along with Arroyo and Abalos in connection with the alleged \$100-million deal.

In a resolution, the Sandiganbayan said Neri's motion for reconsideration failed to present any new arguments to show why the case should be reconsidered.

It further ruled that reconsideration was proper because the charges in all the cases involved the government's \$100-million deal with China's ZTE Corp., which was eventually awarded several allegations of bribery and corruption.

Neri earlier opposed the consolidation of his case with those of Arroyo and Abalos, as sought by the prosecution, and contended that to do so would delay the trial of his case.

He had argued that it would be absurd for him to be tried along with Arroyo since he had testified against the former president in the latter's graft case. He added that their cases did not involve the same issues, and that he did not belong to the "White Group" that had allegedly negotiated with officials of China's ZTE on the \$100-million deal.

The prosecution, for its part, said the consolidation of the \$100-million graft case would lead to a more expeditious and less complex resolution of the controversy.

It said it planned to present ZTE officials as witnesses in the trials, and doing so would be an expensive process. Since the court is considering the case, it said.

Neri was charged with graft in 2010 for allegedly meeting with Abalos and ZTE officials when the \$100-million deal was being negotiated by the government.

Abalos was also charged the same year for intervening in the \$100-million deal which was related to his duties as vice president.

In late 2013, Abalos was charged again with graft, along with Arroyo, her husband Jose Miguel Arroyo and former Transportation Secretary Lourdes Mendoza in connection with the approval of the \$100-million deal which was related to his duties as vice president.

Accurate forecasts seen with Doppler

By Christine D. Acosta

MANILA, Philippines—President Aquino yesterday inaugurated a state-of-the-art radar system that will allow officials to have more accurate information on rain, fall intensity with a 95 percent accuracy.

The 150-million Doppler radar system, one of the most advanced in the world, is the eighth radar station in the country. The radar system is the eighth radar station in the country. The radar system is the eighth radar station in the country.

While the bright days ahead will occasionally be marred by showers, or even typhoons, we can assure the people that our administration is ready to take care of them.

He said the Doppler radar system will be able to predict weather patterns, especially near the country's coast, with a 95 percent accuracy.

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NEW WEATHER FACILITY President Aquino inaugurates the new Doppler radar station of the Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration and the Department of Science and Technology in Barangay Buntawin, Batangas. (Photo by Page A1)

PHOTO BY

Number of college graduates grew by only 2.9%

From page B1

Figures increasing from 345,640 in 2011 to 351,902 in 2012.

Figures compiled by the NSRF from the Commission on Higher Education also showed a decline in the number of graduates in some disciplines, as those deemed by government scientists as not national development.

These include sciences in education sciences, teacher training and engineering and technology.

The number of graduates in these disciplines has been decreasing in the last decade, according to the NSRF. Of the total number of graduates in 2012, 21.2 percent shifted careers in education, engineering and technology. This

figure went down to 22 percent by 2010.

Who will build our future?

"The shape of graduates of education and teacher training and engineering and technology would shape education graduates in the tomorrow. Who will build our future?" the NSRF said.

While the number of graduates in these fields has been

declining, several regions were seen to be building their own power lines, including General and Southern Luzon.

Given the rising statistics, Sen. Hilda Tordesillas, chair of the Senate Committee on Education, Arts and Culture, called for more that was seen action on the quality of education in the country.

"Serious studies have already been published around the

world on how we directly need to improve our education system. But with very clear empirical data, we very soon people are already according the system for us to not immediately on increasing these economic trends."

To develop more qualified graduates, the government is pursuing reforms in the education system, particularly the

K to 12 Olongapo to Year 12 program.

The basic education program hopes to develop high school graduates for employment.

"While marginal improvements will be sufficient to build our knowledge base in science" while it promotes "higher knowledge-based economies of the third millennium," said the NSRF report released on April 26.

World Bank sees positive impact of PH cash scheme

From page B1

Angela's dilemma on her lap. A high school graduate with glowing eyes and a ready smile, Capas has been living in the middle-class community for 18 years. None of her neighbors has steady jobs.

A fifth quarter of the people below the poverty line in the Philippines points to the need for developing skills to receive increasing inequality and broaden the benefits of the region's economic growth.

Key theme

Conditional cash transfer schemes like the Pantawid Pamilya—no matter for the country—were improved in quality as benefits—were promised to health and income and have proven very effective in giving immediate help to the poor and breaking vicious cycle of poverty by improving health, education and opportunities.

According to the World Bank, the results of the country's annual meeting of the Asian Development Bank (ADB) in Manila with government officials, bankers and other senior group from 10 countries.

Equality is doing in 71 countries making up 50 percent of the population, the ADB says. "This far exceeds China, India and Indonesia—three large economies sharing much of the growth."

"Notably in other regions, the recent period of growth in Asia has been back into decline and into poverty," the International Monetary Fund said in a report.

Help in the hall

Now wealthy countries are helping the poor.

In Japan, the world's third-largest economy, a rapidly aging society is putting pressure on a pension system designed when it was assumed that citizens would live longer.

In South Korea, the 12th largest economy relative population, the government, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation

and Development said in a recent survey of the country.

In 1990, about 8 percent of South Korea lived on less than half of the median income. "Then, it is about 15 percent."

For Japan, the ADB's managing director general, growing inequality "demands to understand the region's reality."

Communities in Asia have the resources to promote inclusive growth, he said in mid-April, and they should adopt more targeted social spending. "But means rolling back past by increased salaries like the fact reflected in Indonesia that the government has largely early for politically difficult to kill."

"Governments have often felt that they first need to grow and they must to grow fast," he said. "But a principle of China will be to all-in makes an assumption that its best has a lot to learn."

Target spending

Conditional cash transfer schemes in the Philippines and Indonesia and many others in Bangladesh, Pakistan and Cambodia are seen as one of the best ways to target spending. The Pantawid Pamilya, placed in 2007, is now the largest social protection scheme in the Philippines. The monthly grant of up to P1,400 (\$30) goes to the mother, as expenses these women can use to spend the money on food, medicine and school supplies.

"From the beginning, the program was very well designed," he said. (The Pantawid Pamilya) is the world's first point system for Pantawid Pamilya, said the report.

The report also noted the importance of the implementation of an integrated program, the right of the poverty targeting database and the potential for this to a larger social safety net, thereby reaching the most in need.

Strong impact on education

Capas and her neighbors live just a short drive from the Manila business district where many of the country's largest companies are based. But in the Philippines, a wealthy country,



CASH ON HAND Poor residents withdraw money from the government's conditional cash transfer program in Sinalunga, Zambanga del Norte province.



PRINCIPAL DEDUCTIBLE For Capas, program beneficiary, holds her daughter Angeline while waiting a small sum for family to school during in-Panor, Pinar del Rio. She says her hope is for all her kids to finish college.

quality is more equal for many of the 11 million people in the country.

Indonesia, including nearly 400,000 families identified as "informal workers" a public term for workers like Capas.

Children in Pantawid Pamilya had been without its challenges in a country with pervasive corruption, powerful vested interests and overburdened health and education systems.

Despite all that, it is having a

very strong impact already on education," the World Bank's Choudhury said.

The benefits are also seen in Capas, who plans to set up a small well-selling tea cakes and other snacks.

"My hope is for all my kids to finish college," she said in full school children placed in the grade and two years past school.

"I will try my best to support their education."

But she

Catanduanes execs thank P-Noy for cash aid to poor

By Fernan Diogen
Inquirer Staff Writer

RAON, Catanduanes—This time, a new President's aid to the poor is being planned from local officials for his flagship program and poverty projects.

"The people of Catanduanes are really missing the positive impact of the Pantawid Pamilya Program," Sen. Cesar Lim said in a statement on the opening of a Duplex radio station here provided over by the President.

Lim said the school's economic would get a boost in the next few years as the opening of a conditional cash transfer program.

He added that the Aquino administration's conditional cash transfer program is paying in P20 million a month, benefiting 15,000 poor families in all 11 towns of the island.

Sen. Joseph Da, on the other hand, thanked the administration for the Duplex radio station, which, he said, would help Catanduanes mitigate the effects of typhoons.

In his speech at the inauguration ceremony, the President said he would consider the impact of local officials for funding for social services, disaster relief, and other projects for coastal villages and other areas exposed to severe typhoons and severe flooding.

Meanwhile, Regional Director Landicho B. B. of the Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration said that the new weather station would help the people of the island.

Da said that the new lines of three permanent weather stations and an information technology station.

Police arrest Central Luzon most wanted

THE PHILIPPINE National Police's Criminal Investigation and Detection Group (CIDG) on Wednesday located dramatic gains in its anti-crime drive in Central Luzon, particularly with the arrest of two of the most-criminally wanted fugitives.

CIDG agents captured 416 henchmen in April alone, including the two who ranked among the top 20 wanted in their respective courts, said Central Luzon CIDG chief Justice Supt. Rudy Lacadina in a statement.

Lacadina, in a report to CIDG director General Regalado II, identified the two suspects as Nardo R. Labadina, 22, who was wanted for kidnapping and various illegal arms, and, and Michelle Rodriguez, who held a warrant of arrest for illegal possession. He said they were recommended for other cases.

Lacadina said Labadina, member 2, on the most wanted list in Oront, Surigao, was arrested on April 2 by a joint Surigao CIDG local police team.

Rodriguez, 34, was arrested in Cagayan, where, he was held on April 16, Lacadina said.

He said the CIDG drive against organized crime in Central Luzon also resulted in the apprehension of the Unlawful and Gun Modern groups, considered the most active in the region.

The CIDG Director arrested other members of crime groups identified as Michael T. Amado and Eno T. Amado in Tula City and Bonifacio L. Naga and Michael Natividad in Angeles City.

House to probe cops' sacking

THE HOUSE of Representatives will order Philippine National Police Director General Romeo Barabante to shed light on the role of the entire Batangas Provincial Police (BPP) in the alleged involvement in the abduction of a police officer, said House Speaker Manuel Beltramo, chair of the committee on dangerous drugs, and the panel would extend an invitation to the PNP and other parties concerned as soon as Congress resumes its sessions next week.

Barabante, who was arrested last week after he then alleged involvement in "bully" and kidnapping cases.

"We need to know the details before we can define if there's a need for an investigation out of legislation," said Beltramo in a press message.

Barabante resigned the entire Batangas (BPP) under Chief Insp. Jay Aguirre to the Police Training and Administration Unit in Camp Crame, Quezon City, to ensure their presence in the investigation.

Last week, Beltramo ordered Calabarzon regional director Chief Supt. Jaimel Michel and Intelligence Group Director Chief Supt. Cleber de Calinao Jr. to look into reports that the Batangas (BPP) personnel had negotiated with the family of alleged drug offender Christian Rodriguez for his freedom in exchange for P1 million. *Quinta R. Delano*

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IN THIS ISSUE

■ **PH seen becoming preferred investment destination of MNCs** /B2

■ **Asia stocks rise on rosy US data** /B3

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■ **Tanday profit down 5%** /B5

■ **Mindanao official files case vs DOE, EDC execs** /B6

Bulls push stock market to new peak

Analysts see index hitting 6,000 in second half

By David C. Domingo

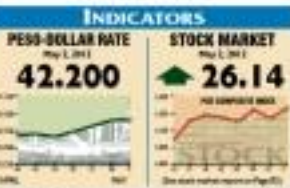
THE LOCAL stock index surged to a record high on Wednesday as upbeat US and Asian factory data, as well as a good stream of first-quarter domestic corporate earnings, boosted investor sentiment.

The main share Philippine stock exchange index added 28.34 points to 5,335.94. The index also reached an intraday peak of 5,360.87, but gave way to a slight decline.

The index was led higher by the financial and holding firms, whose valuations respectively rose by 1.2 percent and 1.7 percent. The industrial and property sectors likewise fared up modestly. On the other hand, the services and mining and metallurgy sectors slipped.

Market turnover for the day was relatively larger at P77.86 billion, including a P5.73-billion block sale of Bionnary Insurance Corp., which placed out about 11 percent of its shares to new investors.

Across the region, imports of Venezuela's oil and China's luxury cars landed risk appetite. Philip Hagopian, KPMG Remy Asset Management director for investments, said it would be healthy for the index to consolidate between 5,300 to 5,500. But he said



VICE President Antonio Ilano (fourth from left) welcomes **ADB-World Bank** (second from right) to the Philippines pavilion at the **SEF** Convention Center. With them are (from left) **Calvin Uy**, **Reggie Ilano**, **Gregory Goring**, **Conor Purinton** and **Thomas J. Jones**.

PH lags behind peers in bank penetration, survey reveals

By Michael V. Romo

THE PHILIPPINES is considered one of the laggards in the Asia-Pacific region in the area of financial services reach, ranking only 12th out of 15 countries in terms of the proportion of working-age population who have accounts with banks or other financial institutions.

Results of a regional survey, done recently by

various institutions including the UN-Agency for International Development, showed that only 26.1 percent of Filipinos aged 15 years and above have accounts with banks or financial institutions.

The proportion is better than the nearly 20 percent in Vietnam and Indonesia, and the lowest 10 percent for Cambodia.

Moreover, the countries with the best financial

PH 88

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From fiesta-inspired buffets to stately sit-down meals—a gastronomic welcome for ADB delegates



FROM LEFT: Pia Tumburing-Padilla, Margrita Tumburing and Victoria Tumburing-Aldana welcome delegates into their home.

By Jay Reyes
 Contributor

IT WON'T BE all business for the 67 finance ministers and 4,000 delegates participating in Asian Development Bank's 45th Annual Board of Governors Meeting on May 3-5. As the host country of this year's meeting, the Philippines will treat key delegates to special dinners to be held today in the homes of nine presidential Filipino families.

These rare opportunities for jampering and conversing with gracious hospitality and refined musical delicious food and drink, these dinners will definitely be in the minds of today guests long after the 45th meeting is over.

Ambassadors and Mrs. Juan R. Tumburing

On the guest list: H.E. Anna Tumburing, P.R. Pinao Muro and ADB Secretary, Adria Gervasi, Netherlands head of delegation, Deputy Governor Minister of Foreign Affairs, Dr. Lester Quinsaat, United Kingdom head of delegation, U.K. Department for International Development.

Ignacio R. Tumburing Jr., Philippine Representative of Tourism Secretary George T. Tumburing, Old Manila restaurant such a personal touch, the Tumburing family will treat 300 of our special guests in a one dinner held at the lush and lovely garden of their lovely ancestral home. The ambassador's children, Mrs. Pia Tumburing-Padilla, Victoria Tumburing-Aldana and Margrita Tumburing, will greet guests at the main door before leading them to their assigned white and green-themed round tables, each adorned with just tablecloth, candles, printed menu book, and an elegant centerpiece of flowers, oranges and lemons arranged by Margrita Tumburing.

Introduced by a poem and the Philippine Gazette (a rare experience for this occasion) includes songs from the international group's members of origin and some favorite Filipino classics. ADB delegates will have a taste of Filipino dishes in a bite of appetizers (shrimp or fishballs, fried lumpia, sweet corn and aburrito, and cheese omelet) followed by a buffet-style setup by Pia Tumburing.

Guests are free to sample what they want to try and in manageable portions, though with these mouth-watering ser-

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These dinners hosted by prominent Filipino families will have guests experiencing the best of Pinoy culture in one evening

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From fiesta-inspired buffets to stately sit-down m

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Turbo-baked Pot

Therapy will withstand, 'baked' and 'baked'

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Meals—a gastronomic welcome for ADB delegates



Nine Filipino families, one night of true-blue Pinoy hospitality

By [Name]

It was a warm and friendly atmosphere that greeted the delegates as they stepped out of the airport. The families, who had been invited to the event, were waiting for them at the airport. The delegates were welcomed by the families and taken to a restaurant for a meal. The meal was a traditional Filipino dish, and the delegates enjoyed it very much. The families also showed the delegates around the city and introduced them to the local culture.

The delegates were also invited to a cultural performance. The performance was a traditional Filipino dance, and the delegates enjoyed it very much. The families also showed the delegates around the city and introduced them to the local culture. The delegates were very impressed with the hospitality of the Filipino families and the quality of the food.

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Mr. [Name] (left) and Mr. [Name] (right) are the two delegates who were invited to the event.

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Potato Wedges



Mr. [Name]

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1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026, 2027, 2028, 2029, 2030, 2031, 2032, 2033, 2034, 2035, 2036, 2037, 2038, 2039, 2040, 2041, 2042, 2043, 2044, 2045, 2046, 2047, 2048, 2049, 2050, 2051, 2052, 2053, 2054, 2055, 2056, 2057, 2058, 2059, 2060, 2061, 2062, 2063, 2064, 2065, 2066, 2067, 2068, 2069, 2070, 2071, 2072, 2073, 2074, 2075, 2076, 2077, 2078, 2079, 2080, 2081, 2082, 2083, 2084, 2085, 2086, 2087, 2088, 2089, 2090, 2091, 2092, 2093, 2094, 2095, 2096, 2097, 2098, 2099, 2100, 2101, 2102, 2103, 2104, 2105, 2106, 2107, 2108, 2109, 2110, 2111, 2112, 2113, 2114, 2115, 2116, 2117, 2118, 2119, 2120, 2121, 2122, 2123, 2124, 2125, 2126, 2127, 2128, 2129, 2130, 2131, 2132, 2133, 2134, 2135, 2136, 2137, 2138, 2139, 2140, 2141, 2142, 2143, 2144, 2145, 2146, 2147, 2148, 2149, 2150, 2151, 2152, 2153, 2154, 2155, 2156, 2157, 2158, 2159, 2160, 2161, 2162, 2163, 2164, 2165, 2166, 2167, 2168, 2169, 2170, 2171, 2172, 2173, 2174, 2175, 2176, 2177, 2178, 2179, 2180, 2181, 2182, 2183, 2184, 2185, 2186, 2187, 2188, 2189, 2190, 2191, 2192, 2193, 2194, 2195, 2196, 2197, 2198, 2199, 2200, 2201, 2202, 2203, 2204, 2205, 2206, 2207, 2208, 2209, 2210, 2211, 2212, 2213, 2214, 2215, 2216, 2217, 2218, 2219, 2220, 2221, 2222, 2223, 2224, 2225, 2226, 2227, 2228, 2229, 2230, 2231, 2232, 2233, 2234, 2235, 2236, 2237, 2238, 2239, 2240, 2241, 2242, 2243, 2244, 2245, 2246, 2247, 2248, 2249, 2250, 2251, 2252, 2253, 2254, 2255, 2256, 2257, 2258, 2259, 2260, 2261, 2262, 2263, 2264, 2265, 2266, 2267, 2268, 2269, 2270, 2271, 2272, 2273, 2274, 2275, 2276, 2277, 2278, 2279, 2280, 2281, 2282, 2283, 2284, 2285, 2286, 2287, 2288, 2289, 2290, 2291, 2292, 2293, 2294, 2295, 2296, 2297, 2298, 2299, 2300, 2301, 2302, 2303, 2304, 2305, 2306, 2307, 2308, 2309, 2310, 2311, 2312, 2313, 2314, 2315, 2316, 2317, 2318, 2319, 2320, 2321, 2322, 2323, 2324, 2325, 2326, 2327, 2328, 2329, 2330, 2331, 2332, 2333, 2334, 2335, 2336, 2337, 2338, 2339, 2340, 2341, 2342, 2343, 2344, 2345, 2346, 2347, 2348, 2349, 2350, 2351, 2352, 2353, 2354, 2355, 2356, 2357, 2358, 2359, 2360, 2361, 2362, 2363, 2364, 2365, 2366, 2367, 2368, 2369, 2370, 2371, 2372, 2373, 2374, 2375, 2376, 2377, 2378, 2379, 2380, 2381, 2382, 2383, 2384, 2385, 2386, 2387, 2388, 2389, 2390, 2391, 2392, 2393, 2394, 2395, 2396, 2397, 2398, 2399, 2400, 2401, 2402, 2403, 2404, 2405, 2406, 2407, 2408, 2409, 2410, 2411, 2412, 2413, 2414, 2415, 2416, 2417, 2418, 2419, 2420, 2421, 2422, 2423, 2424, 2425, 2426, 2427, 2428, 2429, 2430, 2431, 2432, 2433, 2434, 2435, 2436, 2437, 2438, 2439, 2440, 2441, 2442, 2443, 2444, 2445, 2446, 2447, 2448, 2449, 2450, 2451, 2452, 2453, 2454, 2455, 2456, 2457, 2458, 2459, 2460, 2461, 2462, 2463, 2464, 2465, 2466, 2467, 2468, 2469, 2470, 2471, 2472, 2473, 2474, 2475, 2476, 2477, 2478, 2479, 2480, 2481, 2482, 2483, 2484, 2485, 2486, 2487, 2488, 2489, 2490, 2491, 2492, 2493, 2494, 2495, 2496, 2497, 2498, 2499, 2500, 2501, 2502, 2503, 2504, 2505, 2506, 2507, 2508, 2509, 2510, 2511, 2512, 2513, 2514, 2515, 2516, 2517, 2518, 2519, 2520, 2521, 2522, 2523, 2524, 2525, 2526, 2527, 2528, 2529, 2530, 2531, 2532, 2533, 2534, 2535, 2536, 2537, 2538, 2539, 2540, 2541, 2542, 2543, 2544, 2545, 2546, 2547, 2548, 2549, 2550, 2551, 2552, 2553, 2554, 2555, 2556, 2557, 2558, 2559, 2560, 2561, 2562, 2563, 2564, 2565, 2566, 2567, 2568, 2569, 2570, 2571, 2572, 2573, 2574, 2575, 2576, 2577, 2578, 2579, 2580, 2581, 2582, 2583, 2584, 2585, 2586, 2587, 2588, 2589, 2590, 2591, 2592, 2593, 2594, 2595, 2596, 2597, 2598, 2599, 2600, 2601, 2602, 2603, 2604, 2605, 2606, 2607, 2608, 2609, 2610, 2611, 2612, 2613, 2614, 2615, 2616, 2617, 2618, 2619, 2620, 2621, 2622, 2623, 2624, 2625, 2626, 2627, 2628, 2629, 2630, 2631, 2632, 2633, 2634, 2635, 2636, 2637, 2638, 2639, 2640, 2641, 2642, 2643, 2644, 2645, 2646, 2647, 2648, 2649, 2650, 2651, 2652, 2653, 2654, 2655, 2656, 2657, 2658, 2659, 2660, 2661, 2662, 2663, 2664, 2665, 2666, 2667, 2668, 2669, 2670, 2671, 2672, 2673, 2674, 2675, 2676, 2677, 2678, 2679, 26



